23. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 18 to 22] claim 18, comprising performing said selection in [the] an apparatus [of claim 17] for storing location based information using a method of storing and/or retrieving location-based information, the method comprising:

storing, in a distributed network of data storage devices accessible
simultaneously from a plurality of remote user terminals, data defining a plurality of first
localities in relation to which information storage is accessible; and
selecting ones of said first localities to represent second localities for which
information is to be stored and/or retrieved such that:

- i) said first and second localities bear a predetermined locational
 relationship; and
- ii) said first and second localities bearing a predetermined relationship in size

 characterised by the step of distributing said indexing nodes amongst a

 distributed network of data storage devices accessible simultaneously for users at a

 plurality of remote user terminals.

Claim 24 line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 16 or 18 to 23" and insert -- claim 1 --.

REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

TITMUSS Serial No. Unknown

Respectfully submitted,

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